GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1220
ANSWERED ON:25.07.2016
Visa Issue in WTO
Arunmozhithevan Shri A.

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has decided to challenge the decision of the UK Government on the new visa law in the World Trade Organisation (WTO);
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether India has challenged similar issues in WTO concerning other nations; and
(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)
(SMT. NIRMALA SITHARAMAN)

(a) & (b): No Madam.

(c) & (d): India took up the matter in the Dispute Settlement Body of the World Trade Organisation (WTO) with respect to the following two measures by the US:
i. Measures relating to fees for L-1 and H-1B non-immigrant visas;
ii. Measures relating to numerical commitment for H-1B visas.
Pursuant to India's request under the WTO Dispute settlement mechanism, consultations with the US authorities on the above measures were held on 11-12 May, 2016 at the WTO, Geneva.

*****